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# GOVERNING EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

## Social Values in Stem Cell Regulation in Argentina

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### The Ambition...

... is to encourage sustainable development and make Argentina both a biotech (and stem cell) leader, and a model for governance in the region.

### The Innovation Landscape...

... is fragmented, under-funded, and poorly administered, with the result that it performs sub-optimally.

Nonetheless, Argentina has a history of successful biotech use, a high ranking in stem cell spending, and a desire to translate stem cell-based research into therapies.

### The Regulatory Setting ...

... is complex and non-comprehensive.

With respect to research, the *Data Protection Law* (Ley 25.326), and *Cloning Decree* (Decreto 200/1997) are relevant.

With respect to commercialising outputs, the *Intellectual Property Law* (Ley 11.723), and *Patents & Utility Models Law* (Ley 24.481) are relevant.

With respect to therapeutic applications, the *Transplantation Law* (Ley 24.193), and *Medicines Law* (Ley 16.463) are relevant.

However, no law governs, and no agency monitors the full spectrum of actions relevant to stem cells (sourcing, processing, storing, commercialising, trialling, and treating). And the constituent elements of these actions (consent, confidentiality, quality, access) are addressed by a variety of bodies, if at all.



### The Project

**Objectives:** to examine the regulation-making process and to explore with participating stakeholders grappling with the myriad controversies surrounding stem cells core issues that will reveal values held and pursued, and ambitions for both the science and its associated regulatory instruments.

**Methodology:** (1) desktop research; (2) stakeholder workshop;  
(3) mailed questionnaire followed by semi-structured interviews.

**Outputs:** (1) posters; (2) academic papers; (3) policy briefs; (4) final report based on interview data.

### CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

INPUT from STAKEHOLDERS - scientists, doctors, politicians, regulators, patients, entrepreneurs - is ESSENTIAL!  
To contact the PI, email [shawn.harmon@ed.ac.uk](mailto:shawn.harmon@ed.ac.uk), or call +44 (0) 131 651 4267, or fax +44 (0) 131 650 6317.  
For more information on the 'GET: Social Values' project, see [www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/esrcvaluesproject](http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/esrcvaluesproject).